GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:723
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2002
FOODGRAIN SCAM
ALE NARENDRA

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn towards the news item published in the Hindustan daily dated September 18, 2002 under the Caption `Kender Ne Teen Rajyaon Ko Sasta Anaaj Bechney Se Roka`;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard till date;

(c) the names of the officials found involved in the scam; and

(d) the action being taken against them?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SH KRISHNAM RAJU)

(a),(b),(c)&(d): Due to timely preventive action taken by the Central Government, it wasensured that no undue loss was caused in the tender process for sale of balance stocks of paddy in the States of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.As it was observed that several tenderers had quoted very low rates, it was decided that all tenders below Rs.450/- per quintal be rejected and the paddy stocks offered to tenderers as well as other interested parties on `first come first served basis` at Rs.450/- per quintal. As the possibility of a foodgrains scam was averted in this manner the question of involvement of officials does not arise.